



Paul and his older son in Paris in 2014 as Sam was studying abroad (and playing soccer) at Sciences Po. "Dragons" win!

## Paul Whitefield: Father, friend, husband, brother, son, journalist and fisherman

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### Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

By Mary Elizabeth Frye, 1932

Do not stand at my grave and weep  
I am not there; I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow,  
I am the diamond glints on snow.

I am the sun on ripened grain,  
I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circled flight.

I am the soft stars that shine at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry,  
I am not there; I did not die.



Paul and Ben at the record breaking 18-inning World series game in 2018. Dodgers win!



Paul, happy in his beloved Sierra



# Paul, in his own words

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Novice teen boss Paul on  
“training” young  
“corn shuckers” in  
Nebraska:  
“You all know why we’re here.  
Let’s go do it.”

Paul, shaking his head  
while imparting baseball  
knowledge to his sons:  
“Walks will kill you.”

Toddler Paul, left at a gas  
station on family job trip,  
to a stranger trying to help:  
“Lady, mind your own  
business.”

LA Times boss Paul on  
errors:  
“It’s not a mistake if it doesn’t get  
into the paper!”

LA Times boss Paul on  
the pitfalls of individual  
achievement:  
“There’s no ‘I’ in team.”

Paul, on newspaper writing:  
“There are no boring stories,  
only boring storytellers.”

Paul, quoting Prince Faisal in  
“Lawrence of Arabia”  
and his own philosophy:  
“Gasim’s time has come,  
Lawrence.  
It is written.”



The boys “helping”  
dad with washing  
the car

*“Making the decision to have a child is momentous. It is to decide  
forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body.”*

by Elizabeth Stone,  
teacher and author, year unknown

# Program: A Celebration of Life Paul Whitefield 1953-2019

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Welcome ..... Chris Erskine, our funny friend,  
neighbor and colleague

Memories ..... Dave Whitefield, dear brother and  
fellow fisherman /car buff

Memories ..... Sam and Ben Whitefield, adored sons

A photo montage of Paul’s life

Memories ..... Linda Finestone, friend and co-chief  
in most newspaper editions for decades

Memories ..... Jim LaVally and Janet Cromley,  
“NatCal” colleagues and co-conspirators

Closing and thanks ..... Chris Erskine

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*Special thanks to Dave Whitefield, Juana Beguelin, Chris Erskine,  
Annie Swanson, Sue Cavanagh, Patricia Thvedt and Chris Cabot who have  
literally and figuratively held our hands through this journey and this day.*

*And thanks to everyone for caring and sharing about Paul, and to all  
of you who have donated to our beloved national parks and journalistic  
organizations:*

*The National Parks Foundation ([nationalparks.org](http://nationalparks.org))*

*Poynter Institute ([poynter.org](http://poynter.org))*

*Pro Publica, an investigative journalism site ([propublica.org](http://propublica.org))*

*CalMatters, a nonprofit group that tracks state policy issues ([calmatters.org](http://calmatters.org))*